

## REGION II REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH BOARD, INC.

April 15, 2015

Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee  
Legislative Office Building, Room 1000  
Hartford, CT 06106  
RE: Letter of Support for Commissioner Miriam Delphin-Rittmon

Dear Chairs Representative Janowski and Senator Duff, Vice-Chairs Senator Looney and Representative Vargas, Ranking members Senator Kane and Representative Buck-Taylor, and distinguished members of the Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee, I am writing this letter of support on behalf of the five Regional Mental Health Boards of Connecticut. We are endorsing the Governor's appointment of the Commissioner of DMHAS, Miriam Delphin-Rittmon.

Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon has a wealth of experience on the state and federal level in mental health. She has served as DMHAS Deputy Commissioner, senior policy advisor and director of the office of multicultural healthcare equality. In addition, she served as a senior advisor to the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) where she focused on health equity and evidenced based mental health programs. Combining the experience with DMHAS and SAMHSA gives Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon a unique combination of skills to lead our nationally recognized state in mental health and substance use services.

In addition, Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon worked closely with Commissioner Rehmer through the years who led the state recovery oriented system successfully. Their shared vision of prevention, person-centered care and the goal of independence for people with mental health conditions and/or substance use conditions is a cornerstone to the recovery model. We feel that Commissioner Delphin-Rittmon shares the values and has the experience of working within the DMHAS structure to lead this critically important state agency as mental health and overall wellness is important to every person's well being.

Thank you,  
Kristie Barber  
Executive Director

CC: Margaret Watt, Exec Dir, Southwest Regional Mental Health Board  
Jennifer Gross, Exec Dir, Eastern Regional Mental Health Board  
Janine Sullivan-Wiley, Exec Dir, Northwest Regional Mental Health Board  
Marcia DuFore, Exec Dir, North Central Regional Mental Health Board

P.O. Box 351, Middletown, CT 06457

Phone: (860) 262-5027 \* Email: [southcentral@rmhb2.org](mailto:southcentral@rmhb2.org) \* [www.southcentralhealth.org](http://www.southcentralhealth.org)